Weekly Weather Crop Report

Week ending September 17, 2006

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, September 17, 2006**. Scattered showers were reported in a good deal of the State this week. The rain delayed harvesting activities for some farm operators. Many hay producers feel that additional fieldwork, such as spraying for armyworms, is not cost worthy because of the small yields for additional cuttings. Livestock conditions are slowly improving. Soil moisture was rated 38 percent very short, 34 percent short, 27 percent adequate. and 1 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 09/17/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Corn, mature	100	100	99	100
Corn, harvested	97	93	86	84
Cotton, open bolls	95	93	87	86
Cotton, harvested	30	18	7	8
Hay-Warm Season, harvested	93	90	97	92
Peanuts, harvested	10	6	--	--
Rice, mature	93	79	26	90
Rice, harvested	64	41	100	49
Sorghum, mature	100	100	95	100
Sorghum, harvested	99	94	96	86
Soybeans, turning color	98	96	88	90
Soybeans, dropping leaves	93	89	65	77
Soybeans, harvested	82	77	36	52
Sweet Potatoes, harvested	31	18	36	29
Winter Wheat, planted	2	--	--	2

Crop condition for week ending 09/17/06

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Cotton	14	20	30	29	7
Livestock	17	18	35	27	3
Pasture	26	34	33	7	0
Peanuts	3	6	42	49	0
Rice	1	5	16	59	19
Sweet Potatoes	2	24	39	28	7

County Agent Comments

"Very few soybeans remain to be harvested. The more cotton that is picked, the better it gets. Even a scattered shower during the growing season made a big difference."

— Robert Martin, Sharkey

"Producers are busy harvesting cotton and soybeans. Corn harvesting is just about completed. Corn and Group IV soybean yields are down from last year. Cotton yields are also down from last year. Dry weather and disease were the major causes of low yield."

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

"We have missed several rains that forecasters predicted and it's probably too late for most hay producers to benefit from any additional rainfall now. The temperatures are cooling down and the grass has slowed down growth. If we get some soaking rains in the near future, then the winter forage producers may benefit."

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

"The harvesting of all crops is moving rapidly. Armyworms are damaging pastures but few sprays are being applied because grasses are so short from the drought."

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

"This past week, hay harvesting was in full swing. There was probably more hay rolled in the past week than the rest of the summer combined. We are still having to treat armyworms. Seedbed preparation for winter grass has begun."

— Clayton Rouse, Lamar

"Rainfall ranged from 1 to 3 inches this week across the county. The hay harvest will be at least 50 percent short this year. The remaining cattle are in good condition on most farms. Ryegrass fields are being prepared for planting."

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

(Additional comments appear at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm)

Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/17/06

Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Plan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
Upper Delta													
Cleveland	94	56	75	75		0.84	0.18	1	1.90				
Lambert	96	57	77			1.93	1.16	1	6.45				
Tunica	92	57	74	74		0.31	-0.32	1	3.55				
Extreme/Average	96	56	76	75	1	1.03	0.30	1	4.18				
North-Central													
Calhoun City	90	55	72	74	-2	5.66	4.82	2	7.16				
Hickory Flat	91	53	71	73	-2	2.08	1.12	2	4.58				
Independence	92	52	72	73	-1	0.98	0.14	2	2.38				
Oxford	93	54	74	73	1	2.18	1.29	3	4.44				
Extreme/Average	93	52	73	74	-1	2.94	2.10	2	4.77				
Northeast													
Booneville	94	55	78	73	5	1.28	0.37	2	2.23				
Iuka	89	49	68	71	-3	0.73	-0.28	2	1.69				
Ripley	91	54	71	72	-1	4.03	3.12	2	5.66				
Tupelo	92	57	74			1.78	0.00	2	2.59				
Verona	94	56	74	75	-1	3.35	2.37	2	4.61				
Extreme/Average	94	49	71	74	-3	2.70	1.72	2	3.68				
Lower Delta													
Moorhead	94	59	76	76		0.63	-0.19	2	1.05				
Rolling Fork	96	58	78	76	2	0.39	-0.31	2	1.54				
Stoneville	96	56	75	76	-1	1.83	1.06	2	1.90				
Yazoo City	93	57	76	77	-1	0.20	-0.43	2	1.01				
Extreme/Average	96	56	76	76		0.76	0.06	2	1.30				
Central													
Canton	94	55	75	76	-1	1.25	0.55	2	2.26				
Carthage	92	55	74	76	-2	1.17	0.33	2	2.30				
Eupora	91	53	73	74	-1	5.20	4.29	2	6.36				
Lexington	94	56	76	75	1	1.55	0.85	2	2.00				
Extreme/Average	94	53	74	75	-1	2.67	1.83	2	2.13				
East-Central													
Aberdeen	92	58	74	74		2.63	1.74	2	3.13				
Houston	92	53	73	73		8.20	7.22	2	8.23				
Philadelphia				76		0.71	-0.06	2	2.11				
State University	91	51	71	75	-4	3.60	2.76	2	7.14				
Extreme/Average	92	51	73	75	-2	4.81	3.92	2	6.17				
Southwest													
Crystal Springs	95	59	78	77	1	1.48	0.42	2	2.97				
Natchez	94	57	77	77		0.20	-0.67	2	3.23				
Oakley	94	58	76	76		0.50	-0.20	1	1.35				
Vicksburg	93	57	77			0.41	0.00	1	1.45				
Extreme/Average	95	57	77	76	1	0.73	-0.18	2	3.10				
South-Central													
Collins	91	59	77	76	1	0.50	-0.48	1	2.07				
Columbia	92	60	78	77	1	0.44	-0.54	2	5.43				
Tylertown	91	63	78	77	1	1.76	0.79	2	5.70				
Extreme/Average	92	59	77	77		0.90	-0.08	2	4.40				
Southeast													
Beaumont						0.00	0.00	0	0.00				
Hattiesburg	91	62	78	78		1.16	0.12	3	1.82				
Laurel	92	60	77	76	1	1.43	0.38	2	1.72				
Newton	94	52	74	75	-1	0.85	0.01	2	2.54				
Extreme/Average	94	52	76	76		1.15	0.17	2	2.13				
Coastal													
Gulfport	87	67	78	79	-1	2.56	1.00	4	4.18				
Pascagoula 3 NE	89	65	77	78	-1	4.40	2.78	3	6.06				
Picayune				78		1.10	-0.19	2	3.90				
Extreme/Average	89	65		78		0.00	0.00	0	0.00				
State	96	49	75	76	-1	2.00	1.12	2	3.46				

DFN = Departure from Normal.